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THE
TAILOR SYSTEM.

DRESS-CUTTING MADE PERFECT

BY

Mrs. Ewing's Delineation of Scales.

THE TAILOR SYSTEM SIMPLIFIED.

THE KNOWLEDGE OF WHICH WAS GAINED BY MRS. S. C.
EWING, AFTER FIFTEEN YEARS' PRACTICAL CUT-
TING FROM THE SAME; BEING THE MOST
ACCURATE AND RELIABLE SYSTEM
EVER INVENTED FOR CUTTING
LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S
AND BOY'S CLOTHING.

INDIANAPOLIS:
INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL COMPANY, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
1871.

No. 112,024.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

To all Whom these Letters Patent shall Come:

WHEREAS, Sarah C. Ewing, of Indianapolis, Indiana, has alleged that she has invented a new and useful improvement in patterns for applying Measurements and Laying Out Garments, and has made oath that she is a citizen of the United States, that she verily believes she is the original and first inventor or discoverer of the said improvement, and that the same hath not, to her knowledge and belief, been previously known or used, has paid into the Treasury of the United States the sum of Thirty-five Dollars, and presented a petition to the Commissioner of Patents praying that a patent may be issued therefor.

These are, therefore, to grant to the said SARAH C. EWING, her executors, administrators, or assigns, for the term of seventeen years from the twenty-first day of February, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-One, the full and exclusive right and liberty of making, using, and vending to others to be used, the said Improvement, a description whereof is given in the annexed schedule, and made a part of these presents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have caused these Letters to be made Patent, and the Seal of the Patent Office to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the City of Washington, this twenty-first day of February, { Seal } in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-One, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Ninety-fifth.

W. T. OTTO, *Acting Secretary of the Interior.*

SAMUEL A. DUNCAN, *Acting Commissioner of Patents.*

Countersigned and sealed with the Seal of the Patent Office.

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Please enter this book

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The Delineation of
Scales
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Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1868, by
MRS. S. C. EWING,
in the office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington, D. C.

This book has recently
been completed please
file it in my office
if not filed
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INTRODUCTION.

Ladies:--Permit me to make a few brief remarks on the science of garment cutting, by the Tailor's System, thereby giving you directions for using the same. I have had fifteen years' experience cutting garments with tape-line and square, and from practical knowledge in fitting the various forms of ladies and children, I have discovered the plan to construct a system—a delineation of scales, of actual measures, taken from the person—the Tailor's System simplified, and brought within the reach of all by reducing the price for learning. You will, doubtless, think me saying too much, when I say that it is perfect. The lining, when cut, requires no fitting to the form. This is not the work of a week, merely to accomplish gain. I have been improving this system for twelve years past. The practical knowledge that I have gained teaching the actual measurement system, has enabled me to understand how to construct a scale and discover the measures, that a garment can be cut to fit perfectly any variety of forms. It is so constructed that it will fit to perfection any size or form, thereby proving its own merit to all. The process of measuring the person, and applying the measurements, and the scale, are original. The measures are taken differently from any other system. Three measures are all that have heretofore been used on models. S. T. Taylor uses nine measures in his system. They are taken differently from mine, and applied differently. My system of cutting was originally invented by me. Hundreds of dress-makers to

whom I have taught this system, ten and twelve years since, will bear me out in the statement. My invention for cutting garments is the first actual measurement system ever presented to the public in the form of a delineation of scales by which correct and accurate measures can be obtained. We must rely entirely upon the tape-line.

I can conscientiously present to you a system full of merit and superiority over any now in use. I wish to prove to you that I have your interests at heart. Let all who wish to test its accuracy, call and have dresses cut free of charge. It is different from any system ever presented to the public. It was originally invented by me. A delineation of scales, peculiarly shaped, is divided into five separate pieces, with nine measures arranged upon it—the measure of the neck, shoulder, chest, width of breast between the arms, width of back between the arms, length of front, length of back, length of waist, and size around the waist.

1. The front scale is used for draughting the front of all garments. 2. The back scale is used for draughting the back of all garments. 3. The square is used for draughting every separate piece of the garment you are cutting. 4. Side body. 5. Arm size.

On the front scale there is a curve to shape the neck, arm size, and shoulder. The back scale is so shaped that it will give you the height of back at center of neck; depth and pitch of shoulder; width of back and arm size, by applying the measures. Fourth piece forms the side body and shapes the sleeves. Fifth piece is used to shape the arm size of sacks and boys' coats.

I have, for years past, made this branch of science my study. I have tested all charts heretofore in use, that I have seen. They are all imperfect, and will not fit accurately. All charts place the shoulder-seam in the same

place for the same sized breast, regardless of the size and form of the lady, in all forms giving the same result.

About twenty years ago, Fowler's and Madame Briggs' charts came out, and from them it appears that all models or charts have been taken. In the construction of them you will find, by examining, they are not original, but one taken from the other. Ladies, these charts taken from other designs by varying, adding to, or diminishing, with intent to evade the law, are imperfect, and will not fit accurately. S. T. Taylor, of New York, says that these teachings are ruinous to dress-making; that many of those who teach them are devoid of principle, and that they are driven to falsehood and misrepresentation for the purpose of working off their worthless charts. These are facts we can't deny. What are the qualifications of these inventors? Are they practical cutters and dress-makers of experience? Have you ever given this a thought before purchasing the chart? In my travels I find that the public have been deceived very often, by buying these charts upon the word and honor of the lady, and not having time to test them; in fact, not understanding the principles they should be constructed upon to make them perfect. They are readily deceived, and when a reliable system is presented, they are afraid to purchase. They tell you that they have paid out so much money for charts that have been of no use to them; they were humbugged by such and such inventors, or their agents; that they had thought they would never countenance a woman traveling in that business, and will say, "I bought the chart in good faith, believing the lady that it was perfect, but found it worthless; my money thrown away;" arrive at the conclusion that they are all humbugs traveling now-a-days. There are many unprincipled people, we admit; but, ladies, if you are humbugged in this progressive age,

it is your own fault. Never buy a chart, or learn the science of dress-cutting, until you know what its merits are. Every person, before purchasing a system, should prove its merit by fitting a variety of forms. To cut ladies' and children's dresses correctly is more difficult than inexperienced persons would suppose. The fact is, ladies who never learned the science of cutting by actual measure, know but little about fitting the various forms, and would know less about how to construct a chart for cutting dresses. A few common-sense questions would soon put to flight your intruder, if you understand your business scientifically. Dress-making and cutting can be brought to perfection by a strict adherence to system. It is a science that must be studied and learned the same as any other branch of education.

Having made cutting garments a study, and for sixteen years practiced the same, I may in truth lay claim to this branch of science. My husband is a practical tailor of thirty years' experience, and I being a dressmaker, learned of him how to fit ladies and children upon the same principle that he fits gentlemen and boys—with tape-line and square—by the actual measure.

Knowing how little has been done to elevate the business, character, and professions of ladies, and being impressed that much has been done to lower it, it is an important fact that there should be a thorough reform in this department. I have, as a step in the work, attempted to simplify the Tailor System of actual measure for cutting garments, which all classes, even of the most ordinary capacity, can use to perfection, by a strict adherence to the rules, and taking correct measures.

Alas! how much has been done to lower the business, character, and professions of ladies! I have experienced the heart-struggles of the needle-woman to obtain a live-

lihood. What a dreary life the seamstress has, according to the old order of things! I hope the day is not far distant when there will be established mechanical schools for young ladies, where the art and science of business will be taught to perfection. Ladies, your labor can be greatly mitigated by the adoption of my system of actual measure. For this I have labored, and I feel confident that I have not toiled in vain. In my career as a dress-maker I learned what was most needed in that department—to alleviate the toils of the needle-woman. My greatest desire is to benefit the poor, and elevate the female character—conscious that there is not much mercy mingled in their cup of sorrow. In presenting my system, I can conscientiously recommend it as full of merit and simplicity, over any system now in use. Ladies, please bear in mind that I hold myself in readiness to meet any practical cutter, knowing that my system is constructed on a scientific basis that will bear the test of your closest scrutiny.

In entering upon the important task of trying to construct a system for drafting out patterns, that garments may be cut and made without the trouble of trying on, my motive is three-fold: First, to obtain for myself and family a support. Second, we are called upon not to hide our talents, be they ever so few or weak; hence, I contend that if I possess only one talent, as a qualification to eradicate the error that many of our best dress-makers are laboring under, who use models, that there can be no perfect system. Dresses must be fitted to the form after they are cut; their apprentices must serve three or four months before they can baste their work or cut a garment. The great interest I feel for the poor, and especially for the needle-woman, is a sufficient apology, if any is needed. After fifteen years' experience in using the tape and square for drafting patterns, I have constructed

a system upon the principle of actual measurement that is perfection. I have traveled for twelve years and taught this system, and from experience and practical demonstrations in fitting garments, may say in truth that it will fit every variety of form. Hundreds of dress-makers of experience, who use the system, will bear me out in the statement.

MRS. S. C. EWING,
Indianapolis, Indiana.



DIRECTIONS.

TAKING THE MEASURES.

Take the measures and set them down as directed.

1. Place the tape on the neck as high as you want the dress at neck; measure straight down over the shoulder-joint the length of the shoulder.

2. Around the neck, loose.

3. Place the tape-line straight around under the arms; bring the tape up to the collar-bone, tight measure. This measure we call arm size measure. You will find it on the arm size scale. (We have made a division of this chest measure, and arranged it on the scale that gives you the arm size correct, and the proper amount of cloth from the collar-bone to the muscle of the arm by applying the breast measure.)

4. Measure the width of front across the breast from arm to arm. Be careful to find the muscle of the arm.

5. The length of waist under the arm.

6. The size around the waist.

7. The width of back between the arms over the shoulder-blade.

8. The length of center of back from the socket-bone down to the waist.

9. Length of front from collar-bone down to waist.

10. Place the square rule straight across on the back, under the arm size; make a dot in the center on the back; measure from the dot up to the socket-bone. This measure will give the proper quantity of cloth from straight

across under the arm over the shoulder-blade, and place the seam on the shoulder in the right place.

11. Measure around the arm at the shoulder.

You must understand how to take and apply these measures, or you cannot fit perfectly the various forms, sizes and shapes of ladies and children. This scale of actual measurement is so constructed that it will add to or diminish, according to the form of the person. For instance, you are fitting a lady of this form: Very narrow across the breast; very large stoop-shoulders; neck protrudes out; the length of waist long; size around waist small. To fit such a form, the measure takes from the front and adds to the width of back, because the back is wider than the breast, consequently what you take from the breast is added to the back by the measure.

FOR DRAFTING STOOP-SHOULDER FORM—PLAIN WAIST.

Fold the cloth; bring the second line on scale to the edge of cloth; dot at the small "S" for neck, and nine inches for length of shoulder. If drooping shoulder, you must make another dot one inch below the nine; move the scale up; place letter "C" on the first dot, the lower edge of scale touching lower dot; draw a line up to "C," to shape the shoulder; make two more dots one-half inch below the first; draw another line for seam; place "L" on the second line at the neck-point, the neck measure on the edge of cloth; draw a line up to "L," to form the neck curve; place 32 arm size on lower line at the shoulder. Apply half of the breast measure one inch from the front hem straight across to the dot on the arm size scale; draw a line from 32 to the letter "J," to shape the arm size; measure the length of waist under the arm with the rule; draw a line straight across for waist seam; make another line one inch below waist line seven inches

in length. That will give you sufficient length in front when the darts are seamed. Then move the rule up the straight edge, touching the arm size; make a dot three inches and a half from the edge of front hem on lower edge of rule, for height of darts; make another dot three inches from the first, and one-half inch on waist line from first dart, draw a line around the rule to form the darts; place the square end of rule one inch from edge on waist line; dot at the waist measure; add beyond the waist measure the width of the two darts; place the figure 2 on rule at the arm size, the edge touching the dot at the waist seam; draw a line for the seam; add one inch for seaming.

FOR DRAFTING THE BACK.

You will observe that the small "S" on the front scale is one inch and a half below the "L." That makes the front of the dress one inch and a half shorter for protruding neck. The inch and a half is added to the back by dotting at "L," for height of the neck. Common sense teaches us that the front must be shortened and the back lengthened for stooping forms. You can make a perfect fitting dress for all forms by a strict adherence to this system, and taking correct measures, and applying them as instructed. By a practical demonstration of this system of actual measurement, you will see that it gives the quantity of cloth required in the proper place for every variety of form. You will observe that the neck must be lower in front for stooping forms, and across the breast to pitch of shoulder must be shorter. This scale on the back for stooping shoulders gives one inch or one inch and a half, as the form requires, from the back measure straight across from the lower point of arm size to the center of neck, at the socket-bone. For drafting back, for example, dot at "L" for height of neck and 9 length

of shoulder; before you move the scale apply the measure from socket-bone, down the center of back; draw a line straight across; then measure the width of back; move the scale up; place the letter "N" on dot at neck, the edge of scale touching lower dot; draw a line up to "N," to shape the shoulder; dot one-half inch below; make another line for seam; draw a line for neck; place the curve to shape the arm size on lower dot, edge touching upper dot; draw a line for back arm size; place point of rule on lower dot; lay the rule on bias dot at length of waist; draw a line straight across for waist; place the square end of rule on waist line at center of back; dot at waist measure on the back scale; place the figure 2 on the rule at back arm size, the edge touching the waist measure; draw a line; add one inch for seam; take a dart up in the lining at the center of the back, one-half inch in width and six inches in length.

FOR DRAFTING BASQUE—FRONT.

The measures are taken the same as for a plain waist. Draft out a plain waist with two darts, the same as dress, one inch shorter than waist measure. Measure fourteen inches straight down the front from waist seam, and fourteen inches on the bias under the arm from waist seam, and twenty inches across the bottom; then turn the rule over; place the figure 2 at the seam under the arm, the edge touching the lower dot; measure down the length you want your basque—for example, four inches on the hip, at side seam, and eight inches in front. Draft your pattern upon this principle. The fourteen by twenty graduates the skirt correctly from the waist measure. When you draft out a basque, and want it short, measure straight down from the side seam four inches and two and a half inches out straight from you; then place the

point of rule at waist seam, letting the edge touch the dot you got by measuring two inches and a half from you; draw the line as long as you wish your basque, with rule resting on the dot. That gives you the same result as if you had measured the fourteen length and twenty width. After you get the length of front and side seam, draw a line across, or shape the pattern as you wish it; then measure from the edge of front, on the line, three and a half inches, and three inches from the dart in the skirt, by placing the figure 2 on the first dart at waist, the edge touching the dot three and a half inches from the edge of the cloth; draw a line from the dart to the dot; move the rule back to the dart, and draw the second line; make both darts in same manner; place the side form at "I," the edge touching under the arm at the seam; draw a line for the dart that must come out, at the waist seam, from the dart to the seam under the arm.

FOR DRAFTING BASQUE—BACK.

Draft the back same as plain waist. Form the side body with inside curve, when you seam it. Measure fourteen inches straight down the center of back from waist seam, and from five to seven inches across the bottom to the fourteen length. The side seam, for example, is eight inches, and down the center of back is twelve inches: draw the line, resting on the dot. Draft pattern upon this principle. Lengthen the skirt to suit the fashion. The side body must be drafted from the back of dress. Place the point of rule at waist seam on the side body; let the rule lay straight on the cloth or paper; dot at 14; then measure toward you one inch; make another dot; move the rule up to figure 2; draw a line down fourteen inches in length to the dot; then measure twelve inches across the bottom, and turn the rule over, and

bring it up to figure 2; draw the line for seam. You must add an inch or take off an inch, according to waist measure. A lady that measures twenty inches around the waist don't require as much width in the skirt as a person who would measure twenty-seven or thirty inches around the waist. Be very careful to take the measures correctly. Add an inch or take off an inch on each gore, as the form requires it.

FOR LOOSE OR INFANT WAIST—FRONT.

Fold the hem; place the scale on the same as for tight waist; then fold over the amount you want for fullness; let the fold commence from the scale; the fullness must be allowed; then proceed to draft out the pattern the same as tight waist. The breast measure must be taken from the edge of fold, after allowing one inch for lap; also the waist measure is taken beyond the fullness; the back is drafted the same, after folding over the fullness; move the scale up one-half inch from the edge of cloth, before you apply your measures.

FOR LOOSE OR INFANT WAIST—BACK.

Place the scale on the edge of cloth; fold over the amount of cloth you want for fullness; then make a dot one-half inch from the edge of cloth, and move the scale the half-inch until the lower part at the hand is one-half inch from the edge of cloth, and the upper edge at neck is on the edge of cloth; then apply your measures, and draft out the pattern same as for tight waist. The waist measures are taken from the fullness on the back. That leaves the fullness in the center of the back. Children's clothes are drafted the same way. It is useless to give instructions on children's clothes; they are drafted from their measure the same as ladies; all measures are taken

the same; all garments are drafted upon the same principle—from the person's measure.

FOR DRAFTING GABRIELLE—FRONT.

Draft the shoulders and neck the same as for a plain waist; add one-half inch to the arm size; that allows for the seam that the side body takes up; then measure one inch and a half from the edge of the front on the waist line, and make one dart three and a half inches from the edge of the front hem, the same as you do for a plain waist; then measure from the dart on waist line one inch; then take the inside curve of the side body, form a line from your breast measure dot—observing that the seam when taken will leave half an inch on waist line from your dart: then place the square end of your rule on the hem at waist line dot at your waist measure; add beyond the waist measure the one dart and one inch for seam that the side body takes up. Then place the point of rule at arm size, the edge touching the dot on waist line; draw a line to form the seam under the arm. To get the skirt, measure with your rule fourteen inches straight down in front; then place the point of rule under the arm at the waist seam; lay the rule on the bias; take your tape-line and measure twenty inches straight across from the front dot to the fourteen inches on the rule. The principle is to get fourteen inches in length and twenty in width. Then turn the rule over; move it up to figure 2 on waist line under the arm, letting the straight edge of the rule touch the dot you got by measuring twenty inches across; draw a straight line down the length you wish your skirt on the hip; commencing under the arm, let the tape-line rest on the dot the length of the skirt from waist, which gives the width at bottom, with tape-line touching the dot. Then measure at the bottom half the width you

want your first gore. For instance, sixteen inches from the front at the bottom of your skirt; then place the figure 2 on the side body seam at waist line; draw a line straight down to the dot at the bottom, to form the first gore; lay the front side body down on your paper; bring your rule over toward you the width of the square end, which is three and a half inches from the fourteen length; draw the line the same; bring figure 2 up to waist seam on side body; draw a line down to the bottom of your skirt, to get the width of second gore. Observe the two front gores are drafted together at first, fourteen inches in length from waist line, and twenty in width, and then separated, as above directed. The back is draughted the same as plain waist. The lining of the side body must not be cut apart.

FOR DRAFTING GABRIELLE—BACK.

For draughting back, fold your goods or paper together; lay your back on measure one-half inch from center of back or waist line; place the side body form at the dot on back arm size; draw a line down to dot on waist line, then measure fourteen inches straight down the center of back from waist line; measure nine inches from you straight across; take your rule, turn it over, in order to draw a line on the straight edge; bring it up to figure 2 from center of back, letting the edge touch the dot nine inches from the fourteen; draw a line from the figure 2 the length you wish your skirt. The line must lay bias on your cloth, touching the dot nine inches in width from fourteen in length. Take a paper and mark out the side body from your back; then lay it in the center of your cloth, take the rule, lay it on the side body at the point straight with your cloth; make a dot on straight edge of your rule fourteen inches from the waist line; move your

rule over toward you the width of rule from the dot at fourteen; bring figure 2 on rule up to waist line, the opposite edge of rule touching dot; draw a line straight down the length you wish your skirt; then measure down fourteen inches from the waist seam under the arm, and eleven inches across to line from the fourteen inches in length. You will observe that you have to turn the rule over. Bring it up to figure 2; let it touch the dot; draw a line down the length you wish your skirt. In my experience of dress-making, I have discovered that the back of the gabrielle fits more perfect not to have a seam in the lining. Fold in the seam of the side body, baste it on the back, and stitch it same as plain waist.

GIRLS' GABRIELLES.

Girls' gabrielles, of ten and twelve years of age, are draughted upon the same principle. You measure the length you want your skirt. The front must be twenty inches in width at the bottom of skirt; side body must be eleven; the back nine, as directed on the scale. Take the measure of a child the same as you do for a lady. From my scale all garments are cut upon the same principle: therefore it is needless for further instruction on the same garments. You take the measure of children the same.

FOR BOYS' COATS.

Take the measure loose; dot at 14, "D," and 30, on each side scale; place "L" at upper dot, the line touching lower dot; draw a line from one dot to the other for neck; keep "L" at upper dot, move the scale up, and draw a line for shoulder; place "H" (arm size) on upper dot, the edge touching lower dot; draw a line to "H;" then measure the length of waist and skirt, and size of waist with rule, and draw the line for seam.

For the back of coat, place the scale on the edge of your cloth, draw a line around the scale for the neck, shoulder, and arm size; measure length of waist; place the point of rule at the arm, the edge touching the waist measure, and draw a line along for seam.

The process of measuring is the same for children. You will observe the line on the scale to bring to edge of cloth for children under ten years of age. The figures on the scale—4, 5, 6, and 7—are for pitch and length of shoulder for children. All sizes of garments are drafted upon the same principle. The measures graduate the size.

DRAFTING BASQUE FOR SMALL CHILD.

Draft out plain waist, with one dart one inch in width. To get the skirt, measure fourteen inches straight down the front from waist line, and twenty inches across the bottom; then place the point of rule at the seam under the arm, the edge of rule touching the dot; draw a line parallel with the dot as long as you want the skirt on the hip: for instance, three inches on the hip and five inches in front will give nine inches and a quarter width of skirt.

FOR BACK OF CHILD'S BASQUE.

Place the back scale on the edge of cloth; dot at "N" for neck, and at 19 to get the pitch of shoulder; then apply your measures, width of back, length of waist, size of waist. Draw the line for seam under the arm. To get the skirt, measure fourteen inches down the center of the back, and six inches across the bottom; then place the point of rule at the waist seam, draw the line down the length you wish the skirt, parallel with the dot: for example, six inches in length down the back, four inches on the side, and three inches in width at bottom of skirt.

I want you to understand that the same principle applies to all garments, both large and small.

MEASURING FOR BOYS' PANTS.

1. Hip measure. 2. Inside seam. 3. Width at the bottom. 4. From the waist down full length. 5. Size around the waist. The pants are cut in four pieces, two fronts and two backs, consequently use one-fourth of hip measure, one-fourth of waist measure, the length of inside seam, and the outside seam.

FOR MEASURING SLEEVE.

1. From the shoulder around the elbow to the wrist. 2. Inside seam around the hand. 3. Around the arm size at shoulder. First, draw a line one, two, or three inches from the edge of cloth, then apply your measures: 1. The elbow measure; 2. The hand; 3. Inside seam; 4. The arm size. Shape the sleeve with side body and dart rule.

PRICES OF CHARTS.

Books, per hundred,	- - - - -	\$25 00
Charts, per hundred,	- - - - -	75 00
Charts, per dozen,	- - - - -	12 00
Single Chart,	- - - - -	2 00
For teaching the whole system of cutting men's, boy's, ladies', and children's garments,	- - - - -	10 00
For teaching half the system,	- - - - -	6 00

GENERAL REMARKS.

TO DRESS-MAKERS AND MILLINERS.

Energy is the pathway to glory. All industry is respectable; and why should not ladies elevate themselves in business as well as gentlemen? The majority of ladies are found to be wanting in confidence. Timid, fearful to undertake to learn the science of business, and yet their circumstances in life demand it, for they are cradled in poverty. I wish to impress upon the minds of ladies that human enjoyments are only secured by human labor. Few, perhaps, are aware how truly this is the case. The rough materials given by the Creator, including the surface of the earth and its contents, are, in comparison, a trifle. It is by the power and disposition of man to labor that the great end has mainly been secured. When we consider the matter in this light, it must appear a much less hardship than it is generally thought to be. An idle and vacant life, even with all the aid that amusement can give, is not calculated to be a happy one; and this is simply because Providence has constituted us with a view to activity as being the means of accommodating the raw materials of this physical world to our need.

Shall we fold our hands in despair, and shrink from the world, because we are poor? If we have no means, we can do nothing. With such thoughts as these our condition is certainly deplorable. Hence, let us leave our impoverished estate; let us look to the Author of our

being—to the Giver of all good gifts. Look to Jesus, the Son of God, who came into this world an example for us to follow. He was poor; “He had not where to lay his head.” It matters not what our business in this life may be. If we are truthful, virtuous, and honorable in the pursuit of it, our bread and water is sure. What can a man or a woman gain by indolence—nay, a dishonest character and a lost soul? If we want to aspire in business, and climb the hill of science, we must work, and dilligently too. Real independence is the offspring of well-directed energy, and the philosophy of indolence is nothing better than a mean and contemptible sophistry. God himself has vetoed indolence. “What thy hands find to do, do it with thy might,” is the vigorous language of inspiration.

Have ladies no rights that the public are bound to respect? It is a fact that hundreds of honorable ladies are traveling in various kinds of business to obtain a living, perhaps for widowed mothers and orphan children. Notwithstanding this, some will say it is not prudent for ladies to travel alone. For your encouragement, ladies, I would say, if I were required to put your whole duty into the shortest possible form of words: work and pray—pray until you are right, then go ahead. This is my motto: “Onward and upward, and if at first you don’t succeed, try, try again.”

If we want to prosper in this life, we must acknowledge God in our business. He has promised never to leave or forsake those who put their trust in Him. He will assist you temporally as well as spiritually. Prove all things, and hold fast to things which are good.

We are commanded to be kind to strangers. Sometimes we entertain angels unawares. When a stranger calls on you, receive her kindly; every lady ought to

have respect for her own sex until she has reason to do otherwise. It may be some poor woman who has been "taken in" by these wonderful inventors, and substituted as their agent, with a pure soul and an honest heart. Such an one should receive your kindest attention. The author of the invention is the humbug, not the agent. You are not compelled to purchase by any means. Every dress-maker ought to prove the merit of the system before adopting it.

Ladies, let us consider the duties that lie in our pathway. We, as a body of dress-makers and milliners, have a great responsibility resting upon us. Did you ever think of it? In one sense of the term we are called upon to enlighten the craft, to teach the science of dress-making, cutting, and millinery, to the poor of our sex.

It is very seldom that the wealthy allow their daughters to learn a trade. It is the poor that seek employment, who have no other means of support. I wish to put a question for your consideration: Do you feel responsible when your apprentices make a failure, after learning their trade with you? If you do not, you are to blame for every misfitting garment. Often in my travels I find that ladies have bought worthless charts to give to their apprentices because they are cheap, and the most important part of the trade is withheld from them until the last few weeks of their servitude. Cutting and fitting is the most important, and should be taught first instead of last. God holds us responsible for these as well as other transgressions. Would to God that I could bring to bear upon your minds the fact, as it does upon mine, that we are responsible for the many who fall by the wayside in our business. I don't want you to understand that I think that we are heartless toward our apprentices. We have their good at heart; but an object

may be present before the eyes, but if the thoughts are intently engaged upon other things, there is no perception of the object. To do our duty is to know what our duty is, and to feel the great importance of doing to others as we would wish them to do to us. We not only have to train their fingers to ply the needle, but we must cultivate their mechanical ingenuity, and bring to bear upon their minds that without ingenious skill they will fail; without perseverance and an earnest desire to excel they will fail to act nobly their part in the great drama of life. God made woman for a high and noble purpose, and endowed her with a high order of intellect, if properly cultivated.

Much has been said on the fashions by various authors. A perfect fitting dress is becoming to all ladies. Great judgment should be exercised in style and fashion of dress; but, ladies, simplicity and purity should characterize the dress, indicative of the innocence, modesty and virtue that should adorn the female character, ever keeping in mind that this world, with all its gay vanities and fascinating charms, must be forever lost to mortal eyes, and we fashioned and dressed to appear before the great Judge of the living and the dead. Thereby, in my business, hoping to strengthen the weak and confirm the strong, I, in all good conscience, commend my principle of cutting, feeling assured that it will benefit those for whom I have labored.

What great results lie cradled in little things! The poorest father and mother may hope to see their children rise in the world if they will but make the best of what they have, and lay the foundation of a better life for them, by guarding them from the vicious, and training their innocent minds heavenward. Poor, burdened, toiling mother, do not fail to know well the character of her

with whom you place your daughter for instruction, ever bearing in mind that the instructor at workshops should teach divine precepts from God's holy book, as well as the art and science of dress-making. Without your daughters being trained to lift their hearts upward in reverent acknowledgment and dependence on God for love and protection, you may tremble for their future.

S. C. EWING.

TESTIMONIALS.

We, the undersigned, tailors of Cincinnati, Ohio, have examined Mrs. S. C. Ewing's Tailors' System of Actual Measurement, for cutting ladies and childrens' garments, and take pleasure in recommending it to the public as a practical, reliable system.

S. P. THOMAS, 34 West Fourth street.

J. G. RIKHOFF, 160 Fourth street.

R. S. BUFORD, 203 Central Avenue.

W. C. MILLER, 176 Vine street.

DIPLOMA.

INDIANA STATE FAIR OF 1866—AWARDED OVER ALL
OTHERS.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, }
INDIANAPOLIS, IND., March 8, 1867. }

I hereby certify that a Diploma was awarded at the last annual Indiana State Fair, held October, 1866, to Mrs. S. C. EWING, of Indianapolis, Indiana, for Pattern for Draughting and Cutting Boys' Coats and Ladies' Dresses. Witness my hand and official seal, the day above written.

A. J. HOLMES,

Sec'y Ind. State Board Agriculture.

A. D. HAMRICK, *President.*

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